

RIVER BARGE ONLY FREIGHT RATE HOPE

Quicker Than by Rail and at
Least Twenty Per Cent
Cheaper.

River Government has been more in the past eight months than at any time in 12 years. Hugh Humphreys, of the Humphreys-Godwin company, cotton seed products, and member of the terminal commission, said Thursday, and further remarked that people should use the water routes more and more. "Ship by barge," he said, "should be the ruling note. Even if it didn't save anything it is quicker, better and safer."

As an indication of what the barge fleet is capable of doing, Mr. Humphreys cited an instance when a cargo of cotton left here for New Orleans, and four days later was loaded in the hold of a steamer at that point, many times quicker than it could possibly have been delivered by the railroads. It was delivered at a 20 per cent lower rate than the rail-route rates, and was covered by insurance.

A total of \$17,000,000 is being expended by the government in building an enormous fleet of all-steel barges and "last word" towboats. The towboats are propeller-driven, the screw being enclosed in a tunnel to protect it. The barges are of 2,000-ton capacity and will each carry 5,000 bales of cotton, said Mr. Humphreys. Some are already in commission, while others are being built.

The 10 per cent saving made in shipping by barge represents the ordinary profit of a wholesale dealer, Mr. Humphreys said, and should be an item worth consideration. The interstate commerce commission ruling that unless the river is used more by shippers, rail rates equal to those prevailing in interior cities will be established here means that Memphis will lose virtually all its advantage as a river point, Mr. Humphreys said, except those naturally due by river transportation.

"The very existence of Memphis depends on the success of river transportation and the lower rail rates," declares Mr. Humphreys. He says the barge line is superior to railroad service, as it means about two and one-half days' connection with St. Louis and about three days with New Orleans.

SNOW ON GULF COAST FIRST IN TEN YEARS

GULFPORT, Miss., Feb. 26.—Snow fell on the gulf coast Wednesday for the first time in 10 years. The fall was very light and no damage was done to vegetation.

EIGHTH DISTRICT WILL PICK MAN FOR CONGRESS

LEXINGTON, Tenn., Feb. 26. (Sp.)—The Republican congressional committee for the eighth congressional district will meet in Lexington on Friday of this week and fix the place and date of convention to nominate a Republican candidate for congress.

G. O. P. TO PICK DELEGATES

LEXINGTON, Tenn., Feb. 26. (Sp.)—The Republican executive committee for Henderson county will meet in Lexington on Saturday of this week and set date for county convention to select delegates to the Republican state convention at Chattanooga on April 14. There are said to be some former Hooprites affiliating with the Jess Hoopes crowd and some fun is expected at the convention.

ONE HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE IS NOW A PATIENT; OTHER IS CHARGED WITH CUTTING HIM

George Kubick, elevator man at St. Joseph's hospital, is a workman who takes pride in his work. This pride led Kubick to the central police headquarters Wednesday night, where he still was held Thursday morning on a charge of malicious cutting.

George Zilinski, mechanic at St. Joseph's hospital, is a man who doesn't believe in signs. This trait is the reason that he was transformed from a mechanic into a mere patient at the hospital Wednesday night, and still was under a doctor's care Thursday morning.

George Kubick gave the hospital elevator a dressing up Wednesday, and a new coat of paint, inside and out.

Then he hung out a sign "fresh paint." George Zilinski saw the sign, but didn't believe it. He investigated, and several resultant amours on the part of the two men followed.

The great highway stretches out 2,452 miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean. Mr. King says, and 50 per cent of the route from Washington, D. C., to Memphis has already been improved. He thinks that the holding of the annual convention in Arizona would help to organize the effort to improve the western reaches of the highway.

Mr. King has been appointed a member of a committee authorized to draft a memorial touching the life of the late Col. T. S. Ploewman, president of the Enshel Highway association at the time of his death last year. This committee also will select a monument to Col. Ploewman to be placed on the route of the highway. It is probable that this will be erected at the gateway of the road leading into Talladega, Ala., the home of Col. Ploewman.

Mr. King states that the ambitions of the Arizona city should be given serious consideration. The convention of the Bankhead Highway association will be held in Hot Springs, Ark., this year, which will make the third time the annual meetings have been held west of the Mississippi, to only twice in the East. But the association has never met in the far West.

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FLU FATAL TO THREE REST OF FAMILY ILL

JONESBORO, Ark., Feb. 26. (Sp.)—Ellie Castleberry, 2 years old, died yesterday as a result of influenza-pneumonia. This is the third death in this family within a week from the same disease, the mother and baby dying the same day. The father and one 5-year-old daughter survive, and they are both ill with the disease.

15-YEAR-OLD MISS TAKES SCHOOL HONORS

BLUE MOUNTAIN, Miss., Feb. 24. (Sp.)—Though less than 15, little Miss Laurie Motley, of Winchester, Ky., during the initial term of this session, has taken premier honors on scholarship in Blue Mountain college, according to the official records of the school. She is a fine refutation to the old-fashioned notion that a schoolgirl must be eternally at her books in seclusion, for this little lady from the Blue Gram state spends much of her leisure on her roller skates.

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